

Reference 11

SUMMARY OF DAMAGE CASES FROM  
THE DISPOSAL OF MINING WASTES

VOLUME II

APPENDICES E-L

Contract No. 68-02-3179

Prepared For:

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Office of Solid Waste  
401 "M" Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20460

Prepared By:

SCS ENGINEERS  
11260 Roger Bacon Drive  
Reston, Virginia 22090  
(703) 471-6150

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Suite 300 1920 N Street NW Washington DC 20036

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**MINE:**  
Unknown

**TYPE:**  
Inactive lead, zinc, copper mine/  
mill

**OWNER:**  
NL Industries

**LOCATION:**  
Northeastern Madison County, MO

**NEAREST WATER BODY:**  
Toler Creek to Saline Creek to  
Little St. Francis River

**WASTE TYPE INFORMATION:**  
Tailings (crushed rock, clay and fines)

**MANAGEMENT METHOD:**  
Tailings pond

**PROBLEM:**  
Major dam failure 3/28/78 releasing massive amounts of tailings from 40 acre pond into the drainage flow of Toler Creek.

**NATURE AND EXTENT OF DAMAGE:**  
Several hundred acres of agricultural land covered by as much as 1 ft thick layer of tailings. Deposited sediment drastically reduced or eliminated crop production value of land. Primary water quality damage due to physical effects of sediment since heavy metal concentrations in stream samples did not exceed limits of tolerance by benthic fauna. Turbidity increase was noticeable 5 miles downstream from Saline Creek confluence with the Little St. Francis River.

**PARAMETERS:**  
Density and diversity of benthic organisms were studied and turbidity levels established. Dissolved metal concentrations are summarized in appended Figures (copies of Figures 5 and 9 from Missouri Department of Conservation Report in 1980).

**REVERSIBILITY/MITIGATIVE EFFORTS:**  
Dam repaired. If any sediment removed, it was not documented in the available references.

**COSTS:**  
N/A

**REFERENCE:** MO-M-NL

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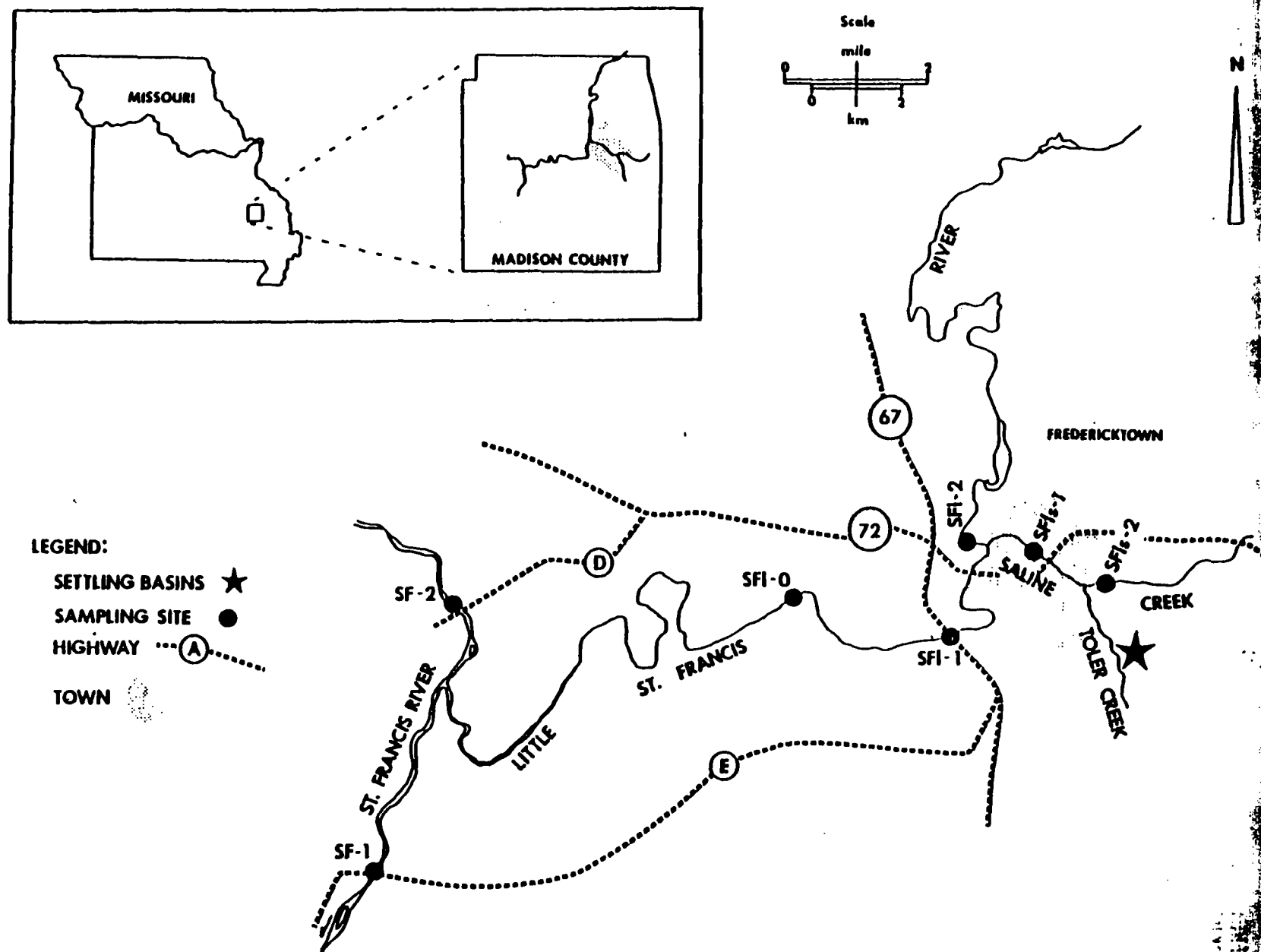


Figure 1. Sampling stations on Saline Creek and the Little St. Francis River, Madison County, Missouri, 1977-78.

